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# Sudama





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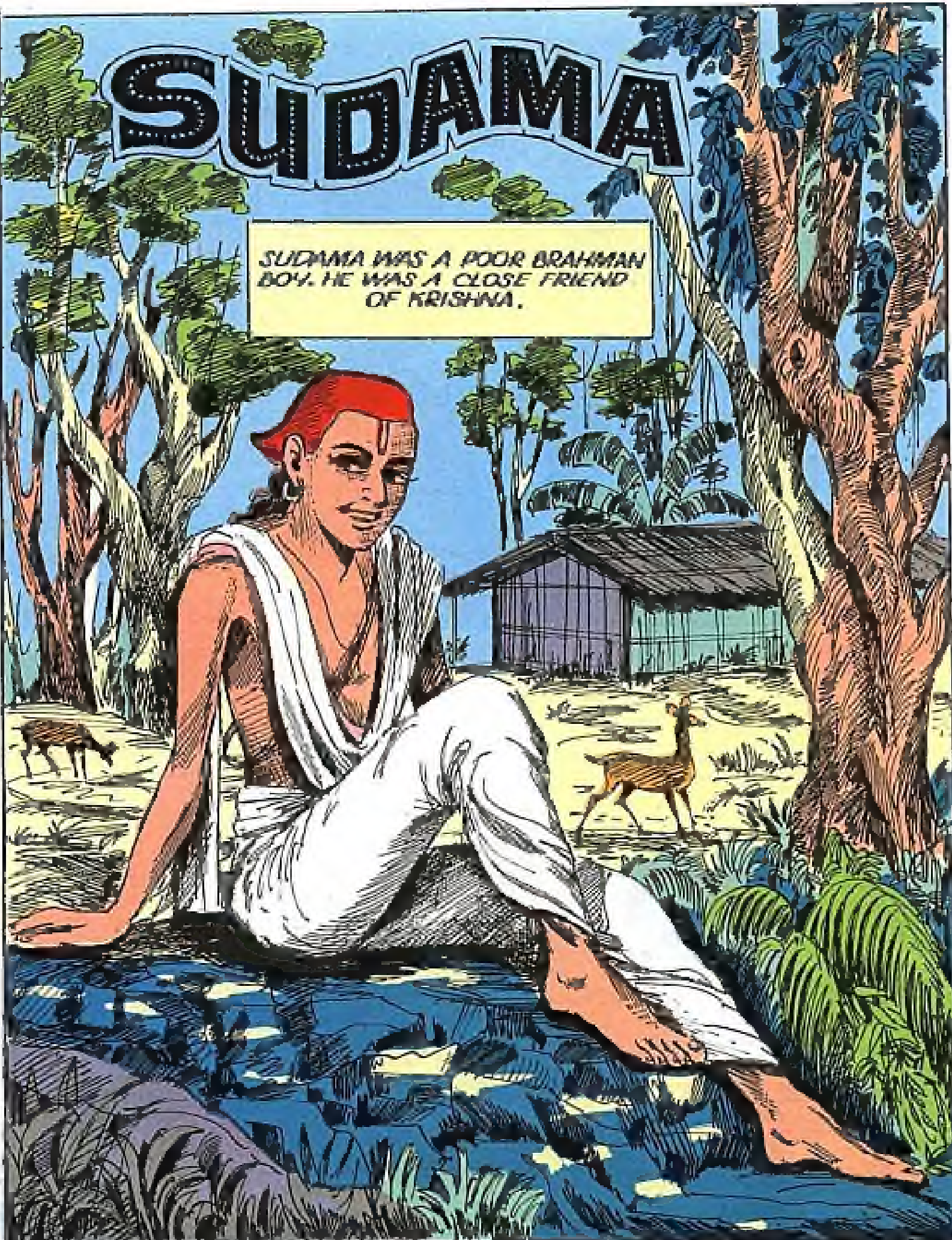
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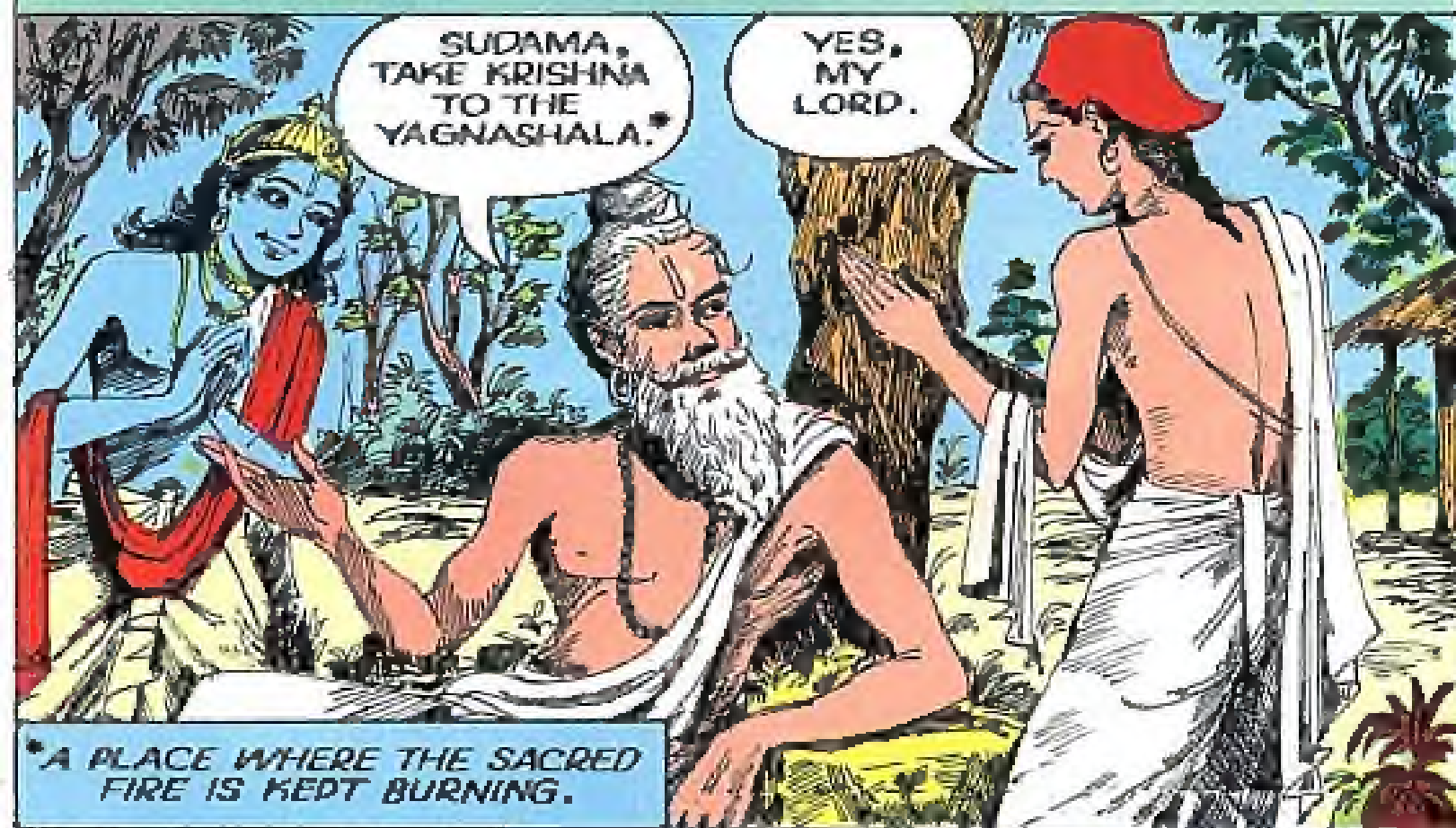
**INDIA BOOK HOUSE**

# SUDAMA

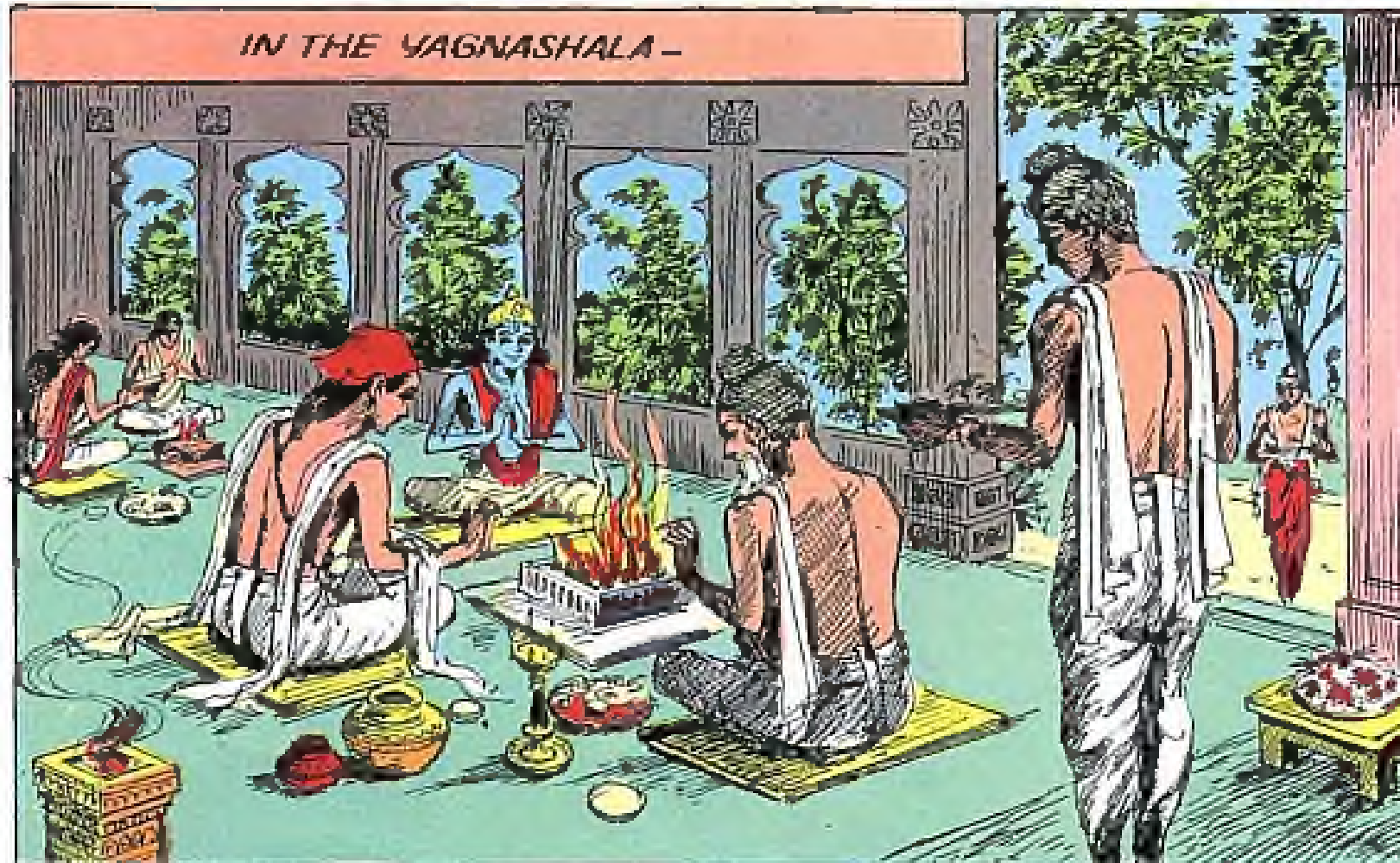
SUDAMA WAS A POOR BRAHMAN BOY. HE WAS A CLOSE FRIEND OF KRISHNA.




SUDAMA AND KRISHNA HAD MET IN GURU SANDIPANI'S ASHRAM.



IN THE YAGNASHALA -








YOUR RENDERING OF  
THE VEDIC HYMNS IS  
ALMOST PERFECT.

I HAVE GOT IT  
FROM MY FATHER.  
GURU SANDIPANI AND  
HE WERE GOOD  
FRIENDS.

SUDAMA OFTEN PRACTISED  
WITH KRISHNA.



ONE DAY, SANDIPANI'S WIFE CALLED  
THE BOYS TO HER.



WILL YOU GO  
AND BRING ME SOME  
FIREWOOD FROM THE  
FOREST?

A woman in a white sari and headscarf is speaking to Krishna and Sudama. Krishna is in the center, wearing his usual blue attire and red shawl. Sudama is on the right, wearing a red turban and white dhoti. They are standing outdoors with trees in the background.

SOON AFTER THEY  
ENTERED THE FOREST...



...A TERRIBLE STORM BROKE OUT.



KRISHNA!



AT LAST THE STORM CLEARED, BUT  
NIGHT HAD FALLEN.



WE HAVE  
LOST OUR  
WAY.

DO NOT BE  
FRIGHTENED, SUDAMA.  
I AM WITH YOU.

WHEN THE BOYS DID NOT RETURN -

I AM  
WORRIED  
ABOUT THE  
BOYS. I WILL  
GO AND  
LOOK FOR  
THEM.



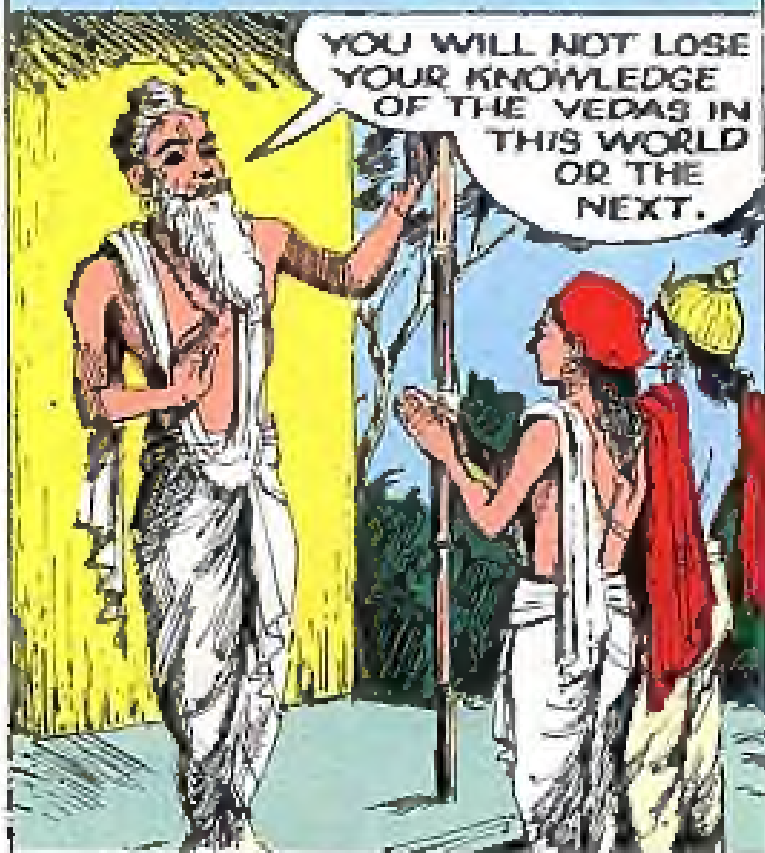
GURU SANDIPANI FOUND THE BOYS  
AFTER A LONG SEARCH.

LIFE IS  
DEAR TO ALL  
AND YET YOU HAVE  
DISREGARDED  
THAT LIFE FOR MY  
SAKE...



AND HE GRANTED THEM A BOON.

YOU WILL NOT LOSE  
YOUR KNOWLEDGE  
OF THE VEDAS IN  
THIS WORLD  
OR THE  
NEXT.

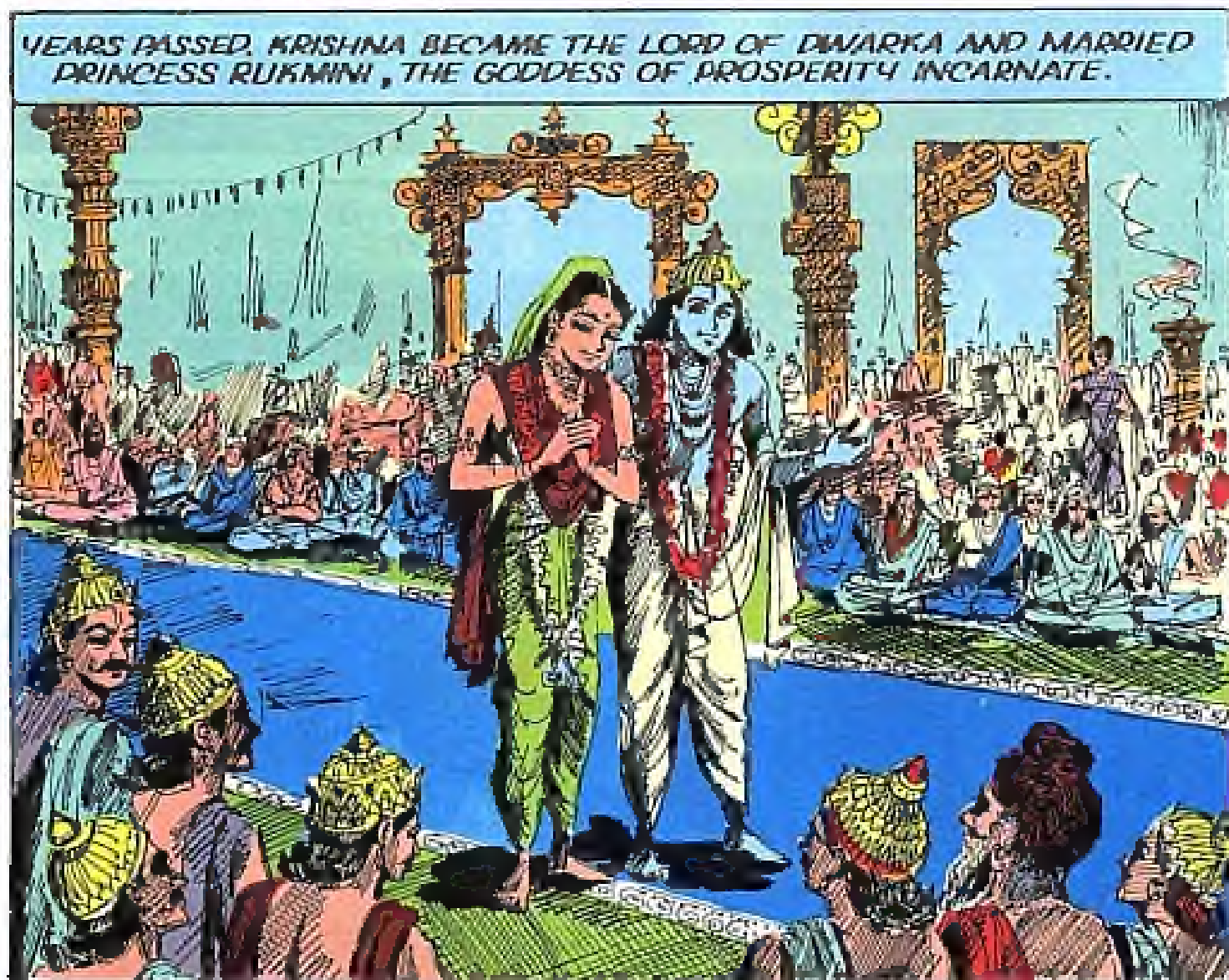
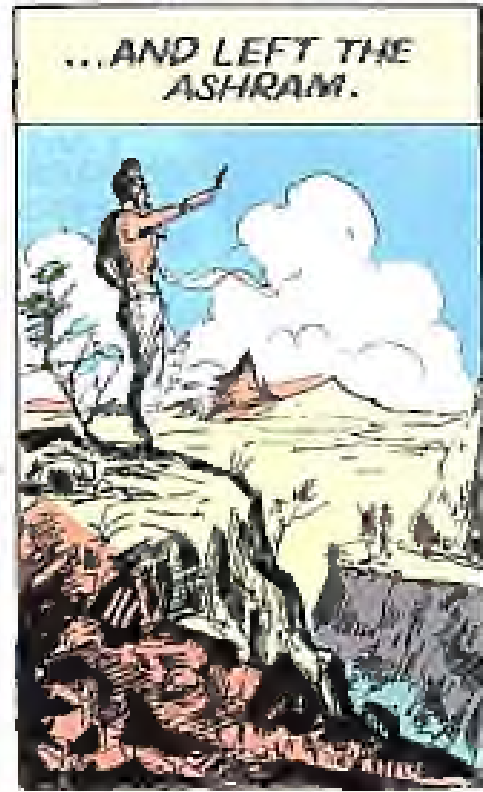


AT LAST THE PERIOD OF THEIR  
STUDIES WAS OVER.

TOMORROW  
WE PART  
AND GO  
OUR WAYS.

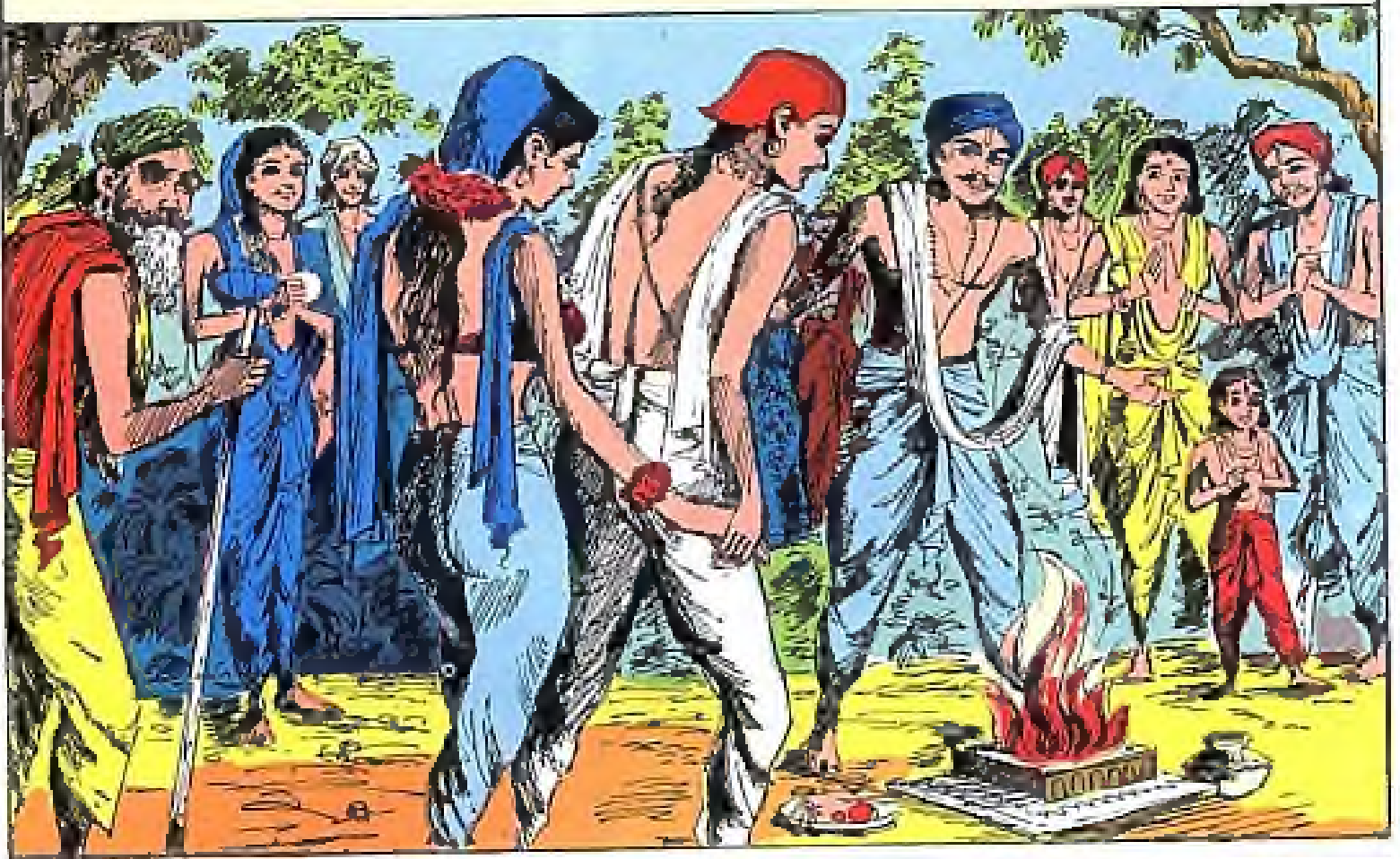




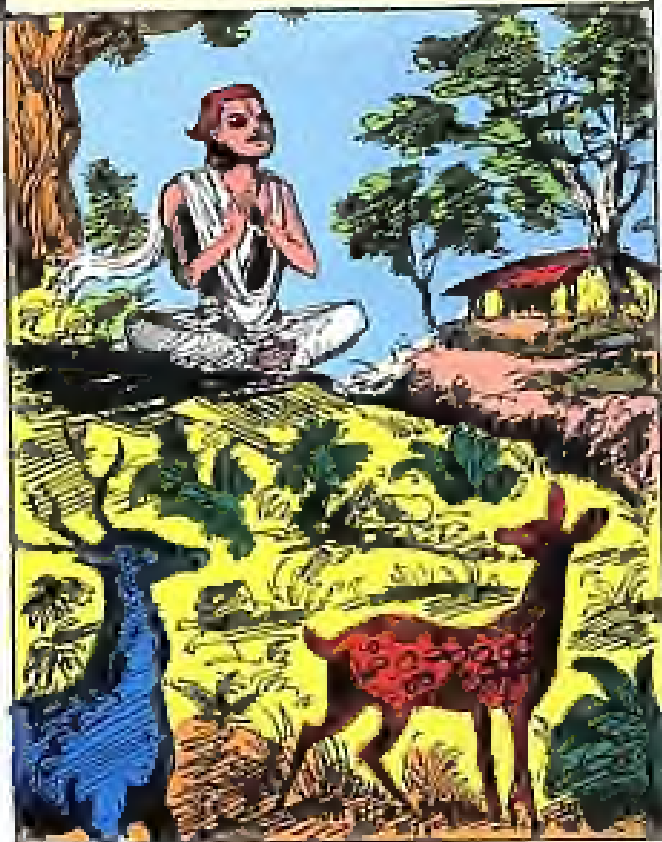




*SUDAMA MARRIED A BRAHMAN GIRL.*



*HE DID NOT CARE FOR  
WORLDLY PLEASURES...*



*...AND LIVED IN DIRE POVERTY.*



EVERYONE LOVED SUDAMA AND HE  
HAD NO ENEMIES.



BUT HIS WIFE WAS SORELY  
TRIED BY THE LIFE SHE  
HAD TO LEAD.



SHE PATIENTLY BORE IT ALL...



...FOR SHE LOOKED UPON SUDAMA  
AS HER GOD.



SOON CHILDREN WERE BORN TO THEM AND THE CHILDREN TOO  
HAD TO LEAD AN AUSTERE LIFE

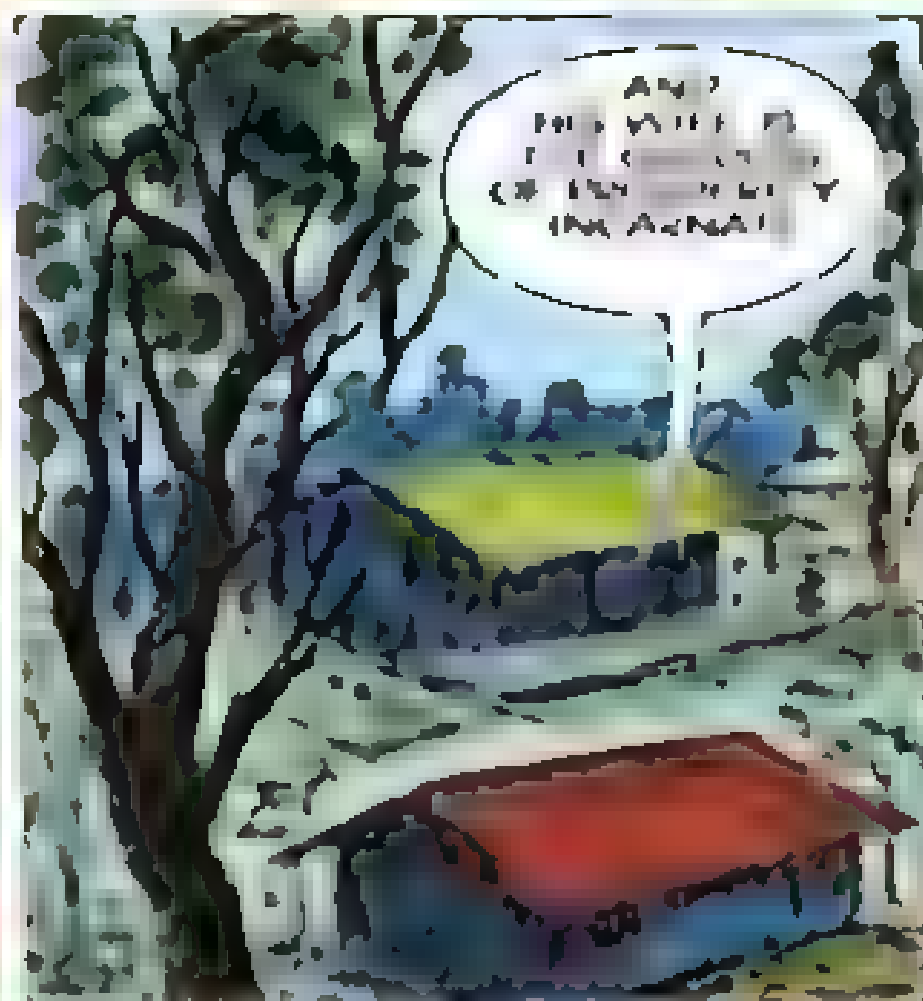




THAT MUST BE THE COUNTESS'S HAIR

I AM YOUR  
PATIENT WITH ME,  
MY LORD

DO NOT FEAR,  
FOR I AM NOT  
YOUR ENEMY,  
MY LORD. I AM  
TO NOT FEAR



THE PROSPECT OF LAKSHNA PLAYED BEFORE HER MIND'S EYE.

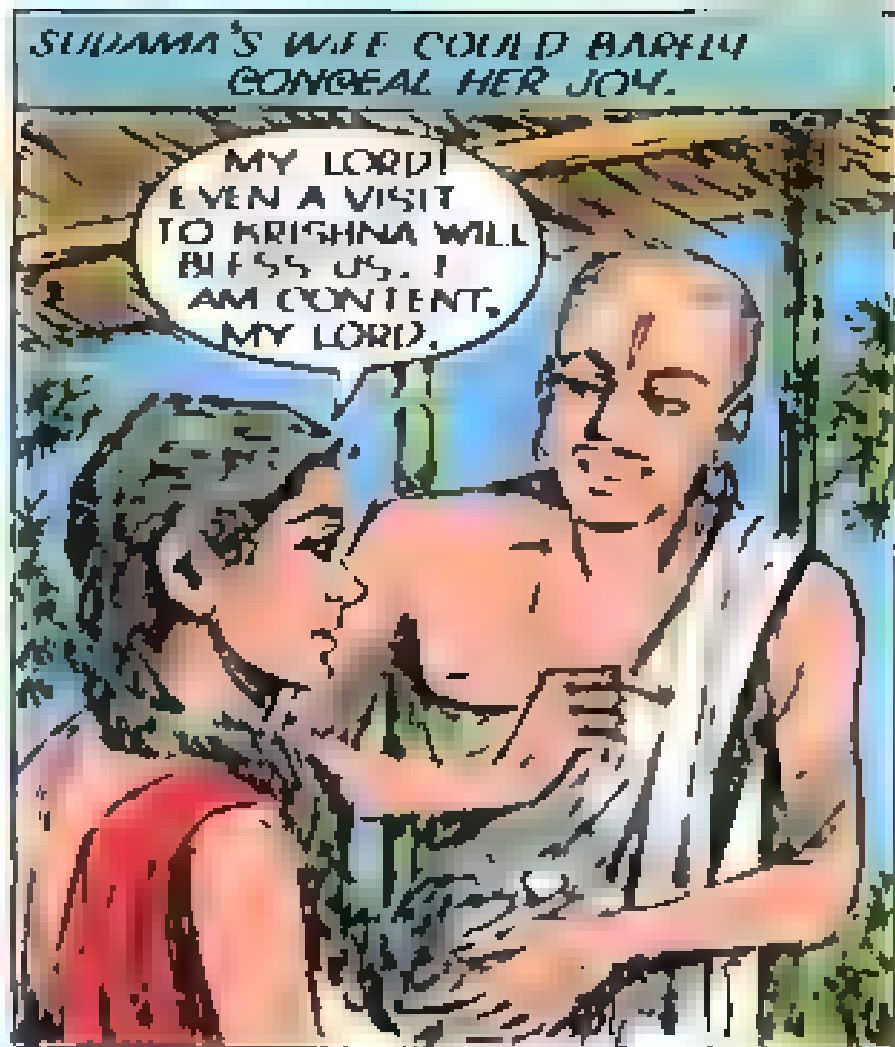


FOR MY GOOD, I RELY ON  
YOU, FOR THE SAKE OF  
OLD DEAR CHULU AND  
MEET KRISHNA.



THE VERY PROSPECT OF  
MEETING MY DEAR FRIEND  
AFTER SO MANY  
YEARS MAKES  
ME HAPPY.







AND THEREFORE YOU WENT TO BOTH  
OF THEM AT THE SAME TIME

I CANNOT SEND  
MY HUSBAND  
EMPTY HANDED.

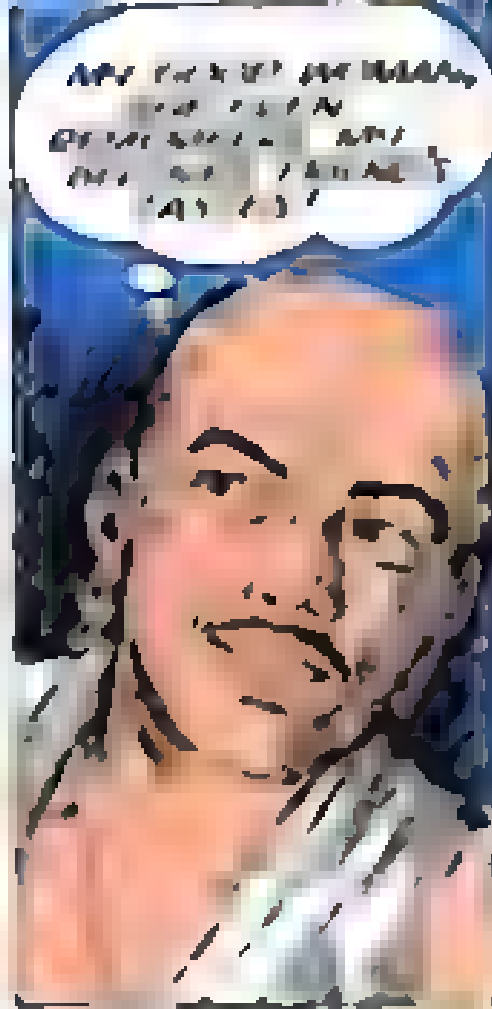
DO YOU HAVE  
ANYTHING IN THE HOUSE?  
ANYTHING WORTHY OF  
BEING PRESENTED TO  
ARISHINA?

SUDAMA'S WIFE WENT AND  
REMEMBERED SOME THINGS.

MY LORD USED TO TELL  
ME THAT ARISHINA LOVED  
TO EAT POWA.



SUDAMA TEXT HIMSELF AND FOUND  
ARISHINA HAD SMILED AND TAKEN  
POWA FROM HIS HAND.



SUDAMA'S WIFE BROUGHT  
THE POWA TO HIM.



BUT SHE COULD FIND NOTHING TO TIE  
IT IN SO...



SHE TORE THE END  
OF HER GARMENT...



...AND HANDED THE  
BUNDLE OF POWA  
TO SUDAMA.



HE TOOK LEAVE  
OF HIS WIFE.





AND SET OUT ON THE JOURNEY TO DWARKA.



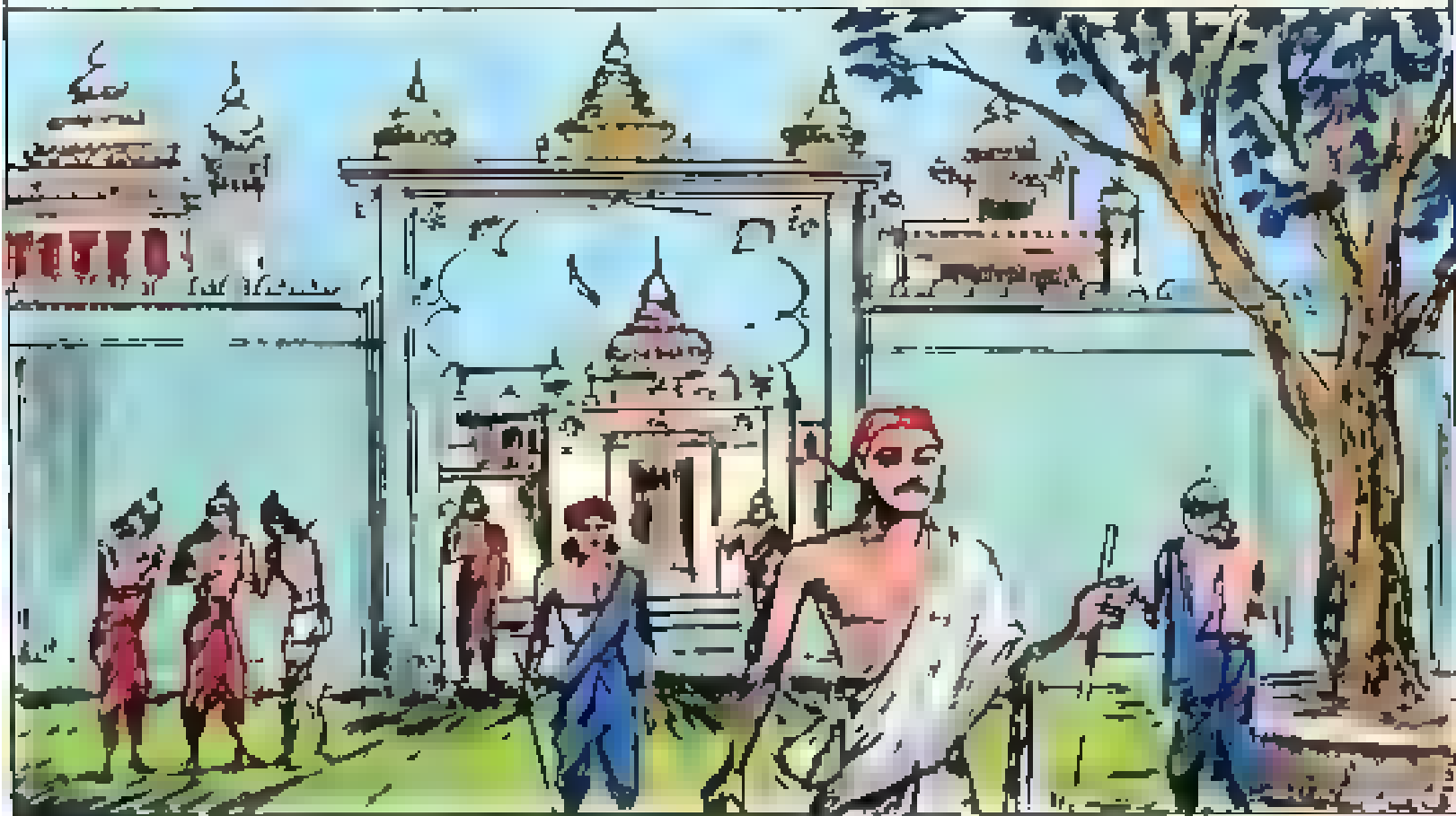
THE ROUTE WAS AN INTERESTING  
THOUGH LONG ONE.



AND BEFORE HE KNEW IT, HE HAD REACHED DWARKA.



WHEN HE CAME TO THE OPEN GATES OF THE PALACE AT DWARKA,  
NO ONE STOPPED HIM AS HE ENTERED.



HE WALKED INTO  
THE PALACE GROUNDS



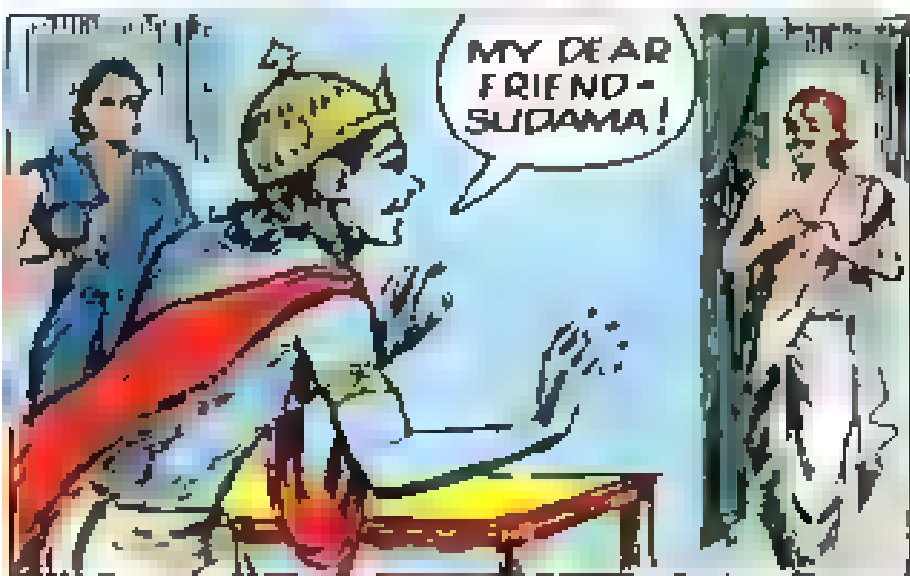
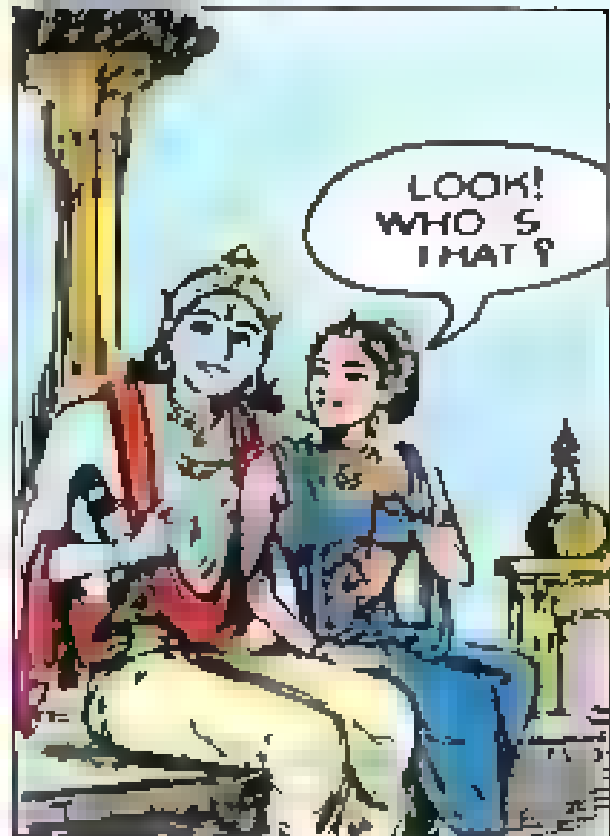
...AND THROUGH ROOM.



AFTER ROOM.

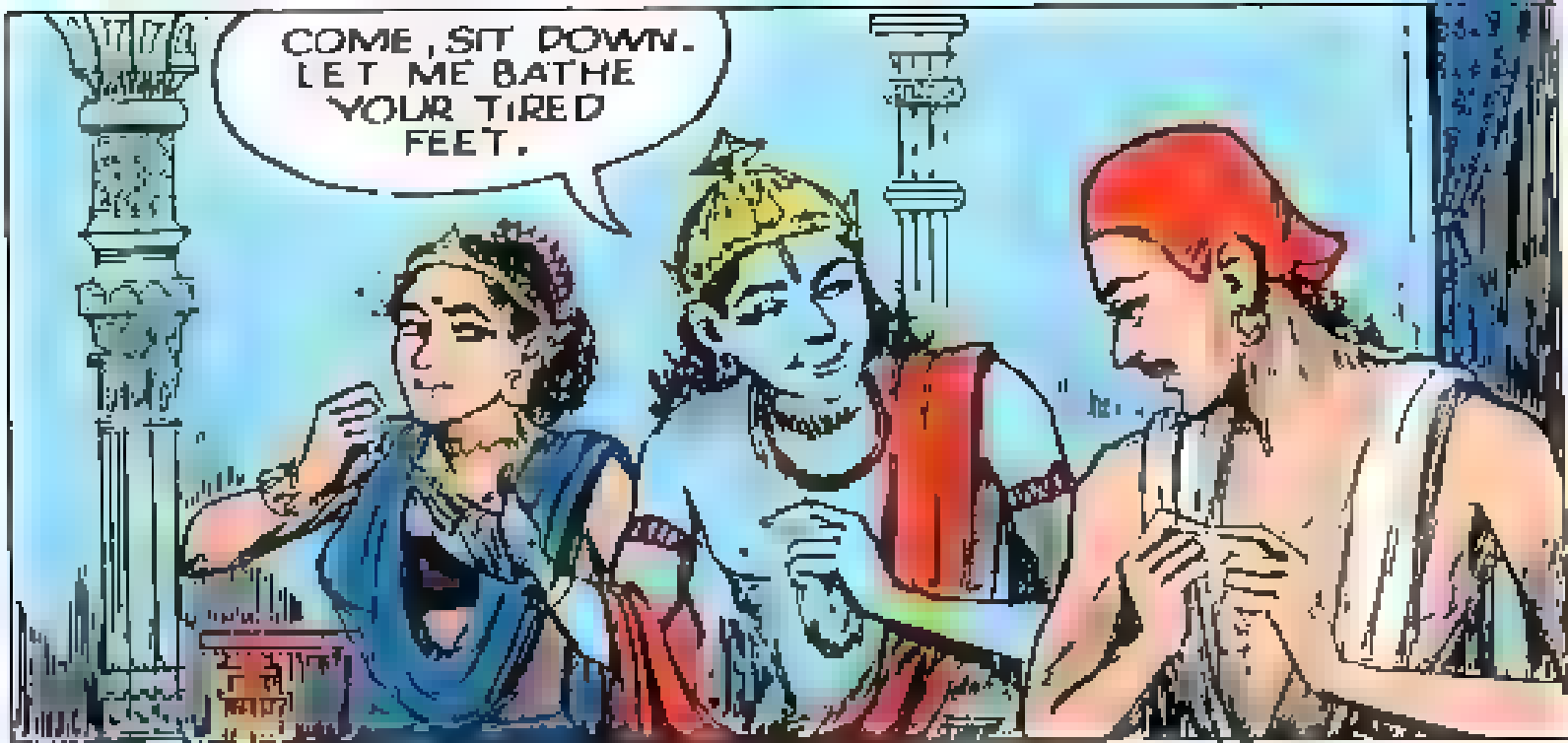


AT LAST HE FOUND KRISHNA AND RUKMINI.





COME, SIT DOWN.  
LET ME BATHE  
YOUR TIRED  
FEET.



KRISHNA,  
HOW PLEASED  
I AM!

SO  
AM I.



KRISHNA APPLIED SANDALWOOD  
PASTE TO SOOTHE THE TIRED  
LIMBS OF SUDAMA.

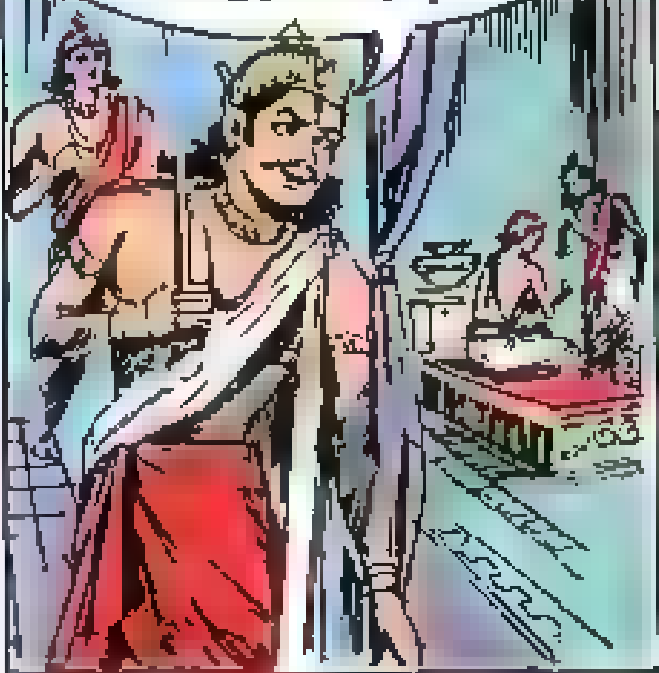


AND PUT PIECES OF BETEL  
NUT INTO HIS MOUTH.



THE PALACE ATTENDANTS  
WONDERED.

WHAT GREAT ACT OF  
MERIT HAS THIS DIRTY  
BEGGAR IN TATTERED  
GARMENTS PERFORMED  
TO BE SO DELIGHTFULLY  
WELCOMED?



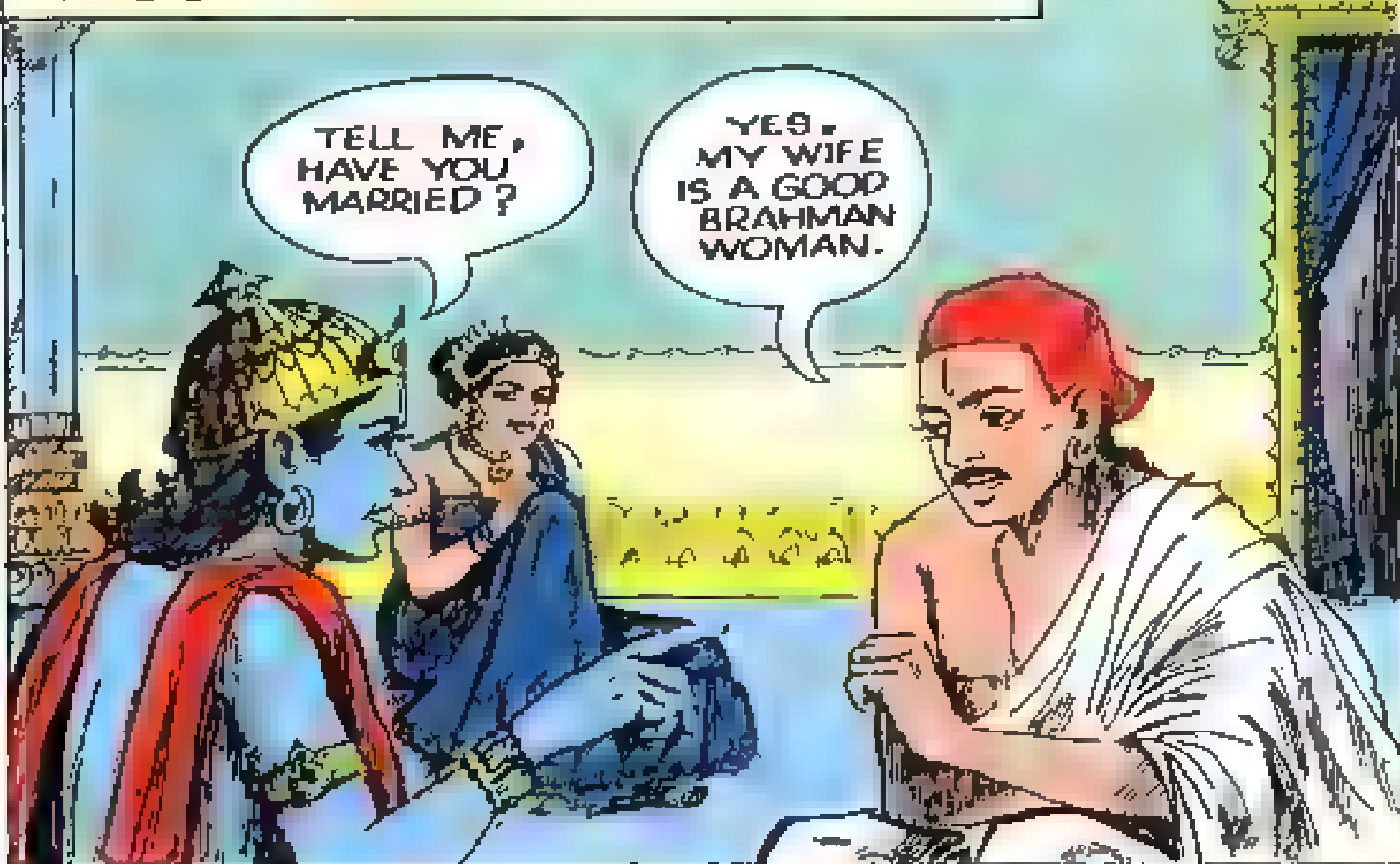
9  
RUKMINI, WE MUST  
DO EVERYTHING  
POSSIBLE TO MAKE  
HIS STAY HERE COM-  
FORTABLE.

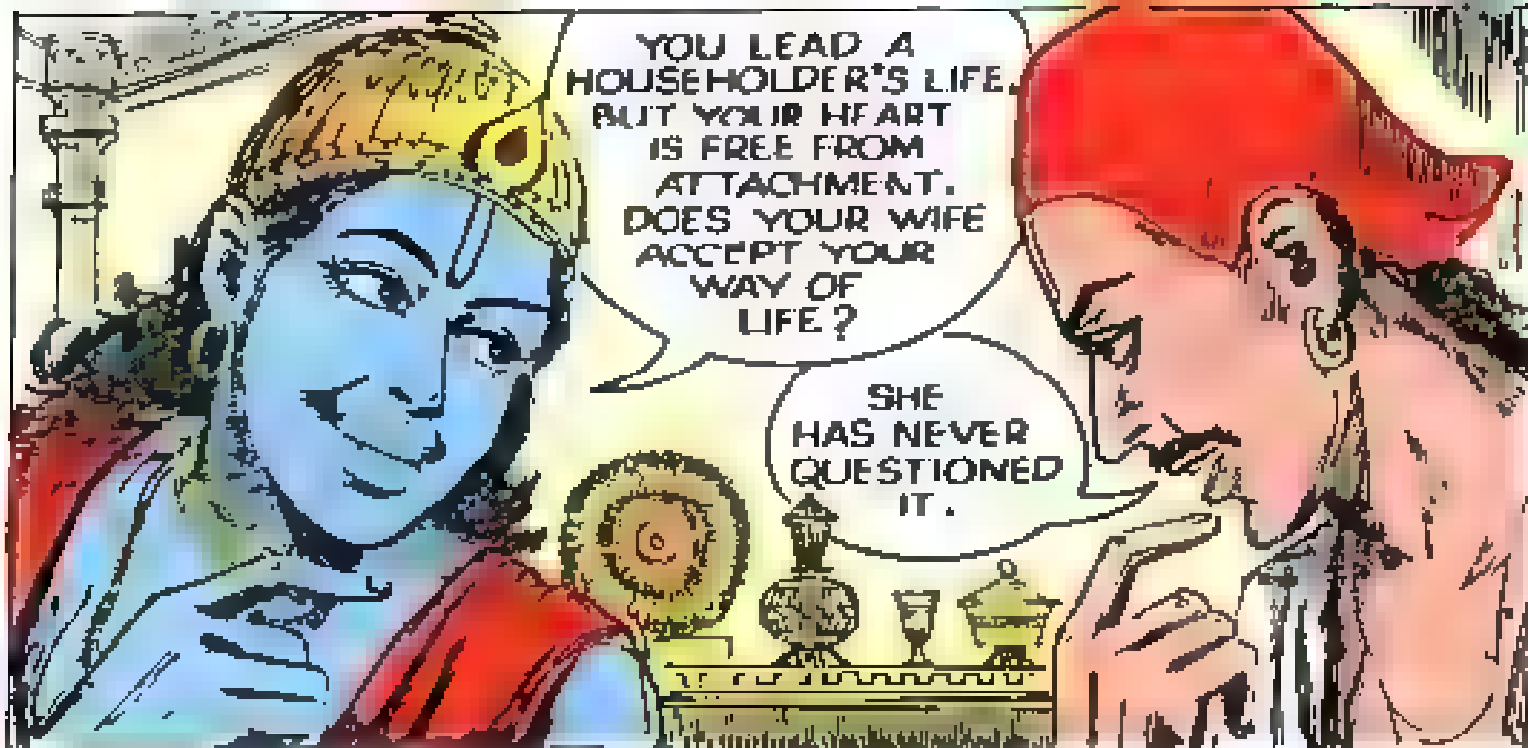


AT LAST AFTER SUDAMA WAS REFRESHED -

TELL ME,  
HAVE YOU  
MARRIED?

YES.  
MY WIFE  
IS A GOOD  
BRAHMAN  
WOMAN.





KRISHNA SAW THE RAG BUNDLE, TIED TO SUDAMA'S WAIST.

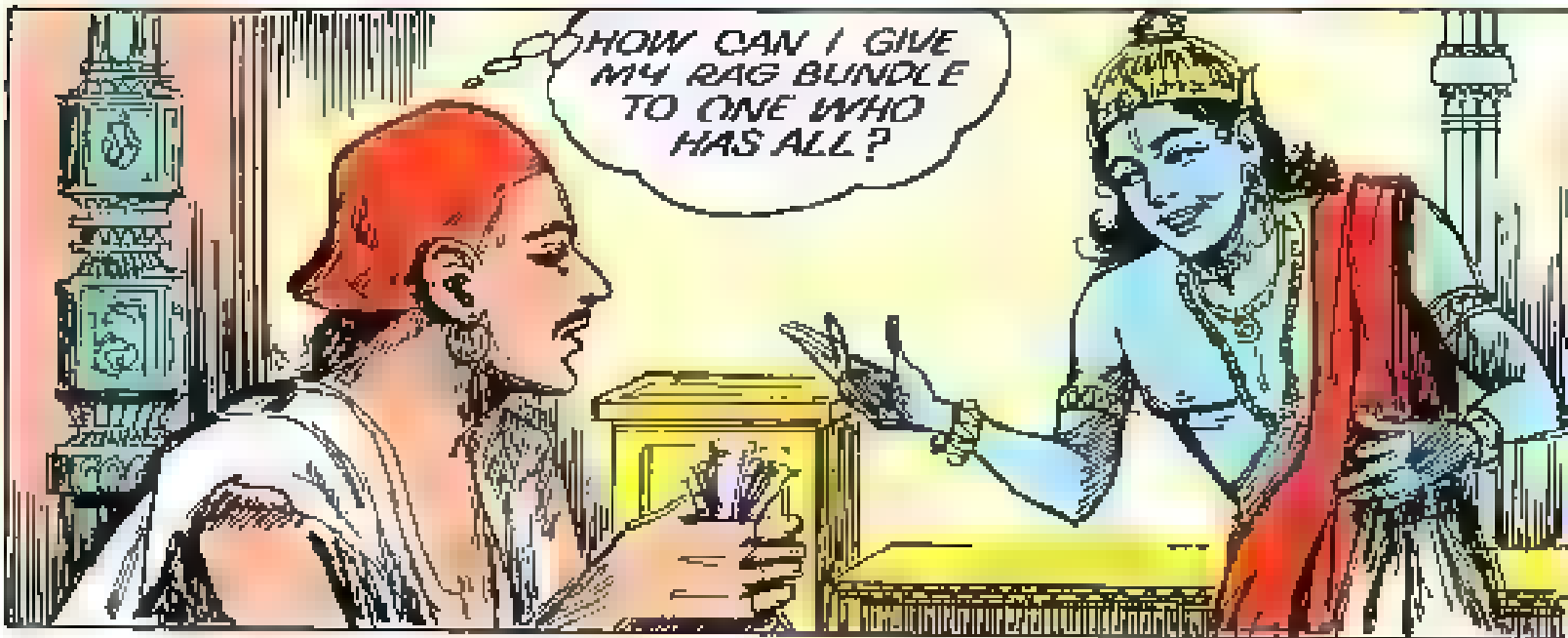


WHEN KRISHNA SAW THAT  
SUDAMA WAS ASHAMED TO  
GIVE HIM THE BUNDLE -

THE POOREST  
OF GIFTS GIVEN  
TO ME WITH LOVE  
IS DEARER TO ME  
THAN THE RICH  
EST OF GIFTS  
GIVEN WITHOUT  
LOVE.



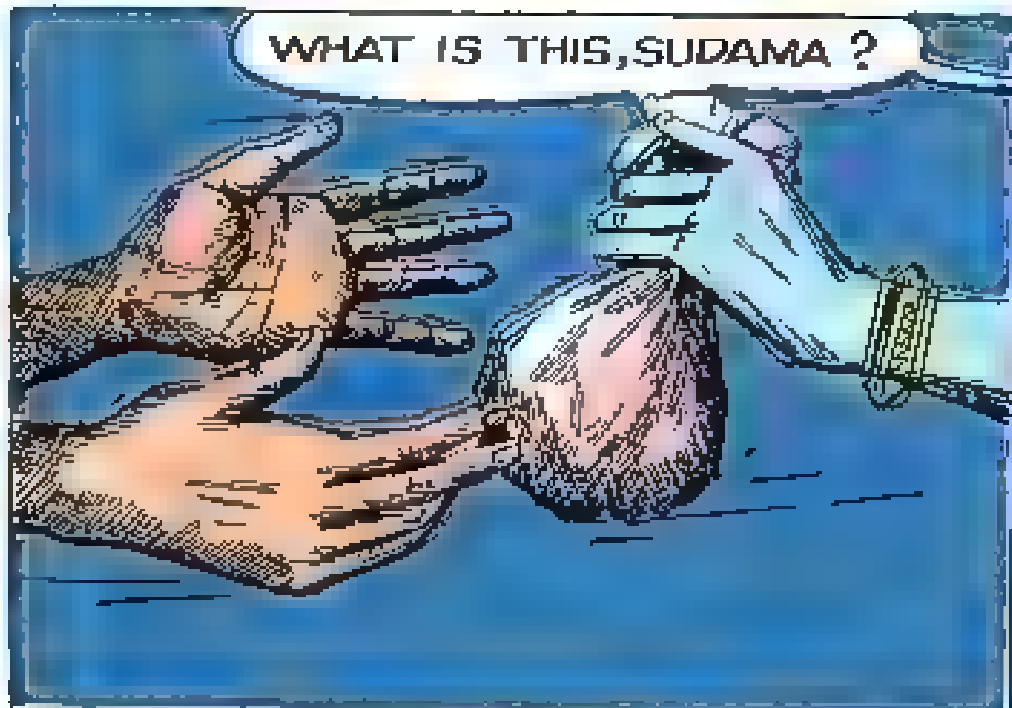
HOW CAN I GIVE  
MY RAG BUNDLE  
TO ONE WHO  
HAS ALL?



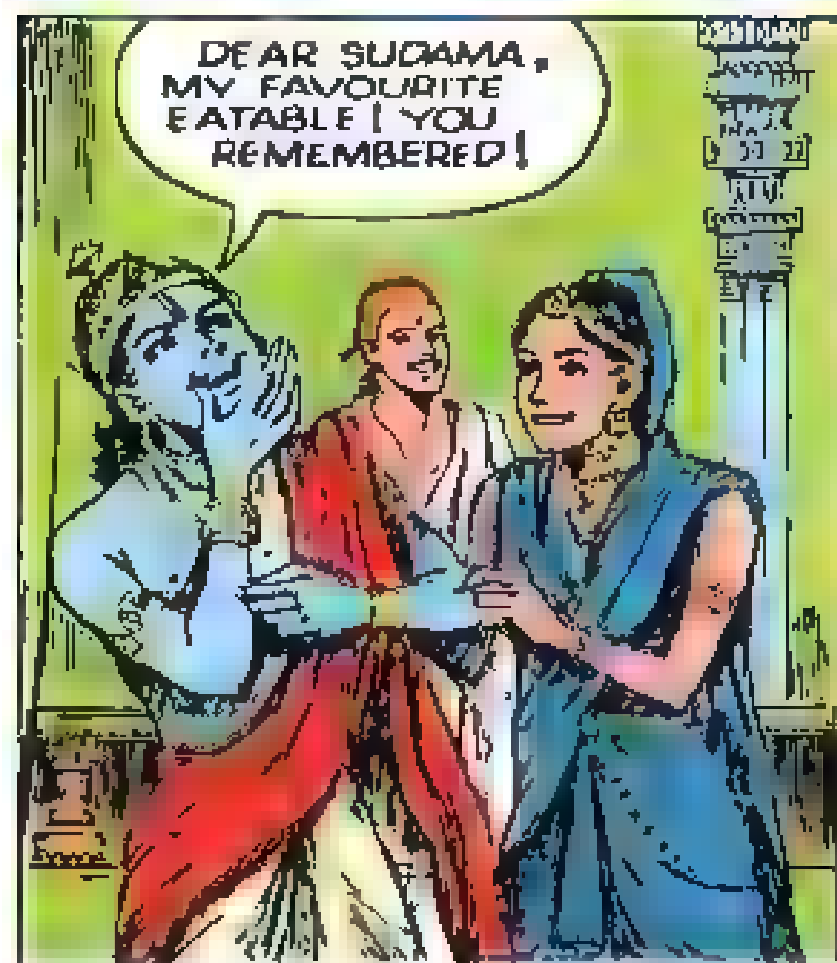
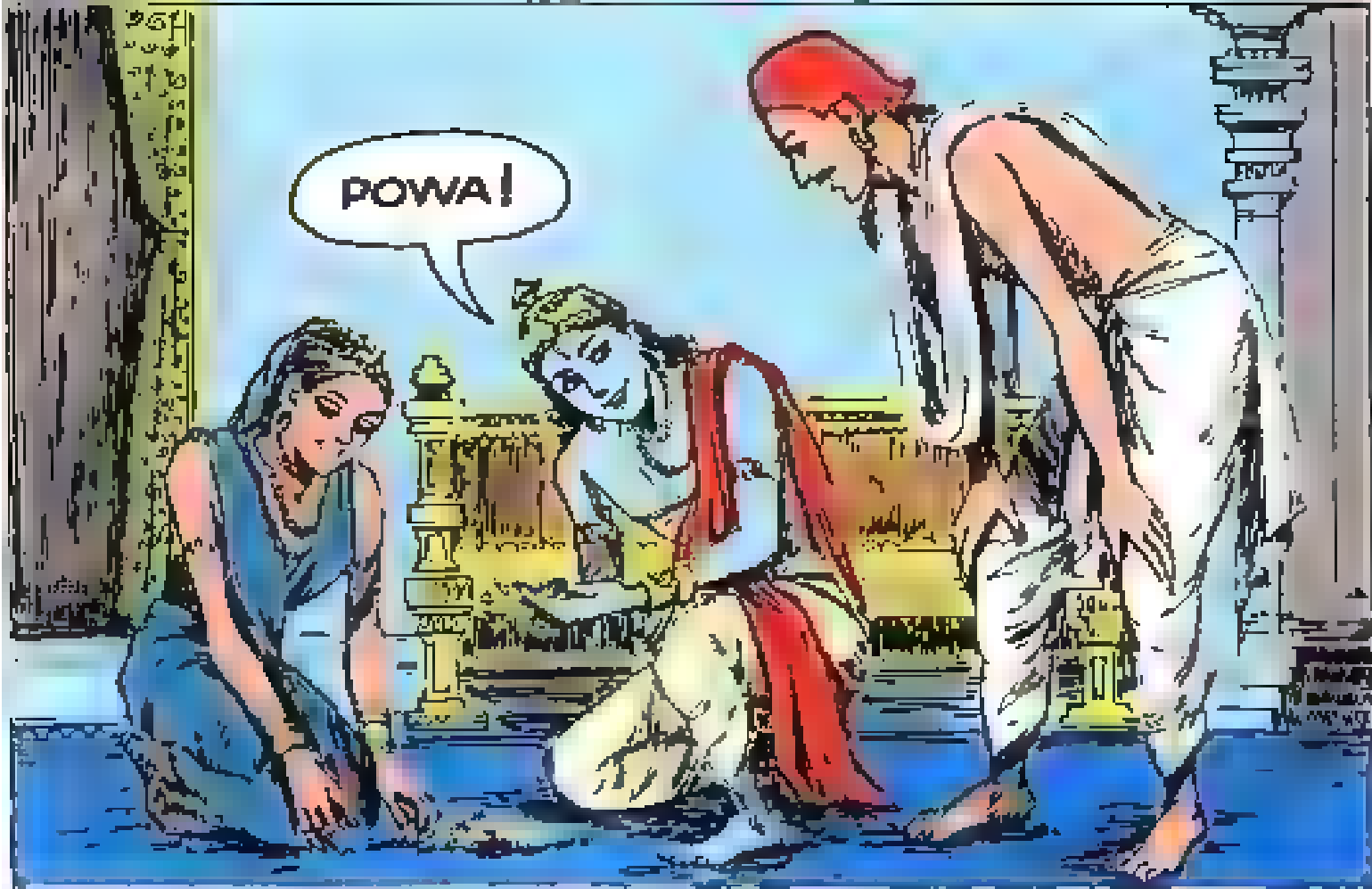
HE HAS NOT COME TO  
ASK ANYTHING FOR  
HIMSELF. HE HAS COME  
OUT OF LOVE FOR HIS  
WIFE AND ME!

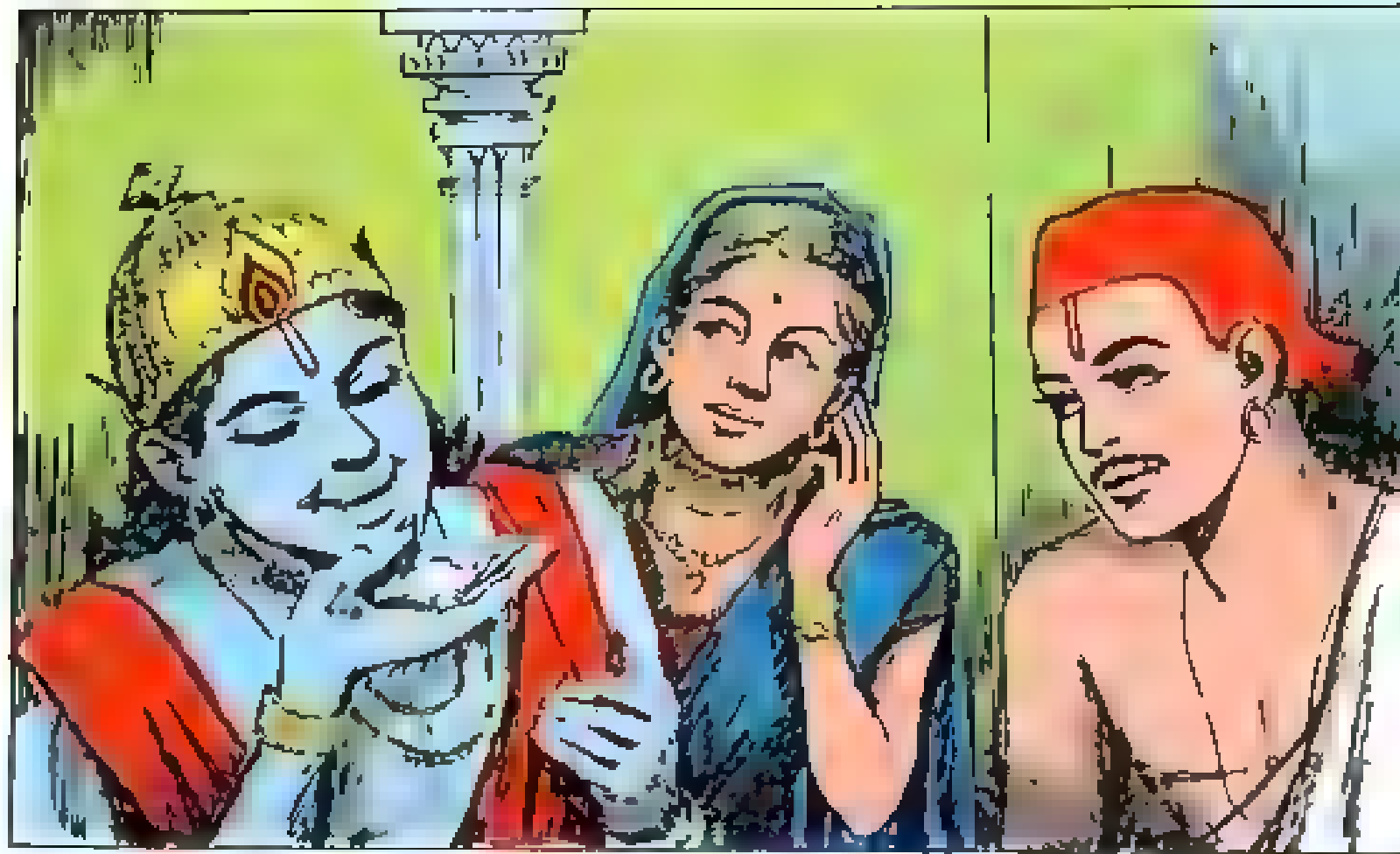


WHAT IS THIS, SUDAMA?









WHEN HE WAS ABOUT TO PICK A  
SECOND HANDFUL -

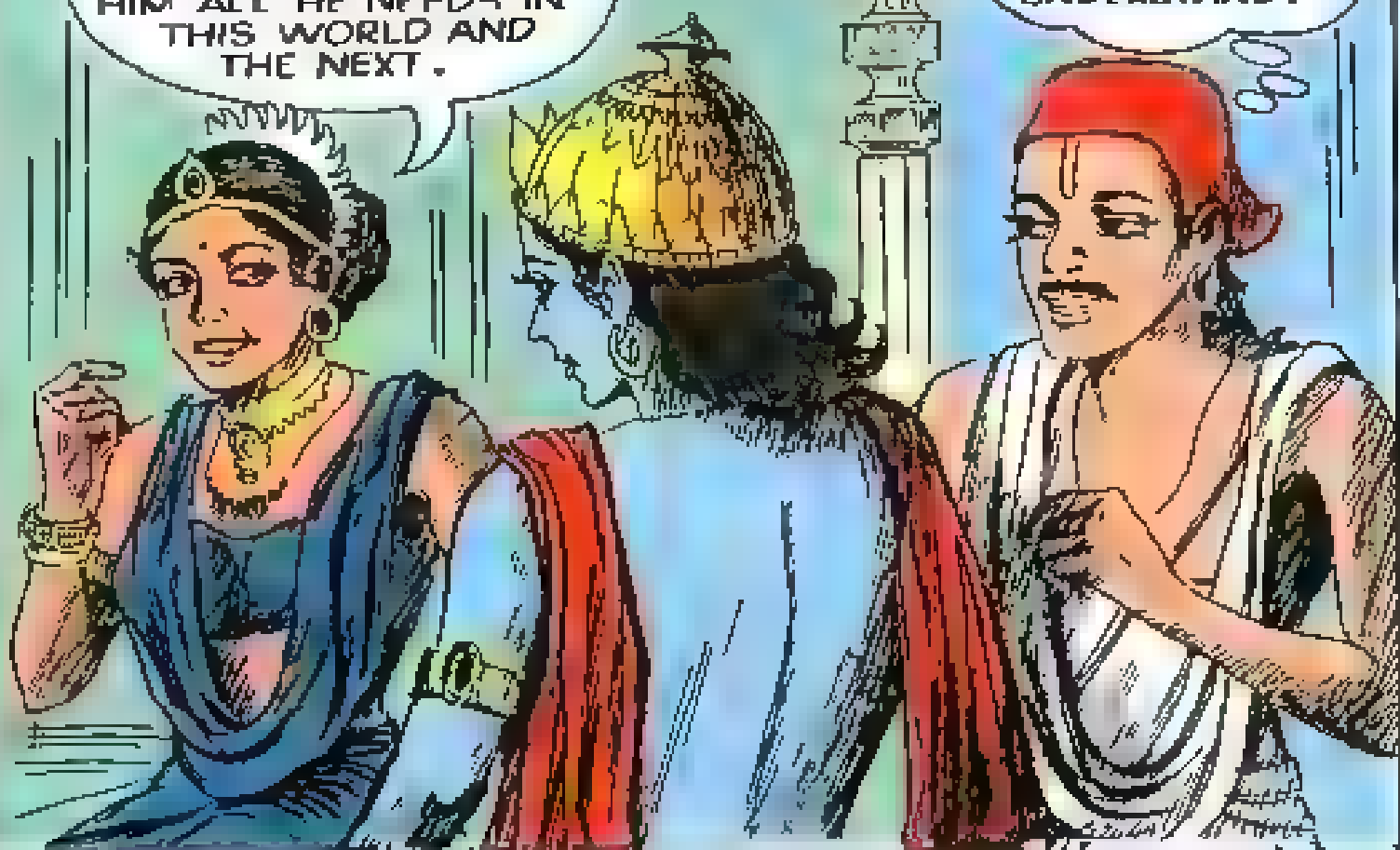


IT WAS THE DUTY OF THE  
GODDESS OF PROSPERITY  
INCARNATE TO CONTROL ITS  
DISTRIBUTION.



LORD! ONE MOUTHFUL  
IS ENOUGH TO GIVE  
HIM ALL HE NEEDS IN  
THIS WORLD AND  
THE NEXT.

WHAT DOES SHE  
MEAN? I DON'T  
UNDERSTAND.



SHE IS RIGHT,  
SUDAMA.

KRISHNA ASKED SUDAMA TO  
SPEND THE NIGHT IN HIS  
PALACE. AS SUDAMA LAY HIM-  
SELF ON THE LUXURIOUS BED-

I AM  
INDEED IN  
HEAVEN.



THE NEXT MORNING  
SUDAMA TOOK LEAVE  
OF KRISHNA AND  
RUKMINI.



DON'T FORGET US,  
SUDAMA, WHEN YOU  
GO BACK HOME.





ON HIS WAY HOME, SUDAMA RELIVED HIS RECENT EXPERIENCES.

THE MEMORY  
OF MY MEETING  
WITH RAJATINA  
EMBOLDENED  
ME



I DID NOT  
ASK AND HE  
DID NOT GIVE,  
BUT I AM  
CONTENT.



HE RECEIVED ME  
WITH GREAT  
WARMTH



HE EMBOLDENED ME  
RECALING I WAS HIS  
FRIEND.

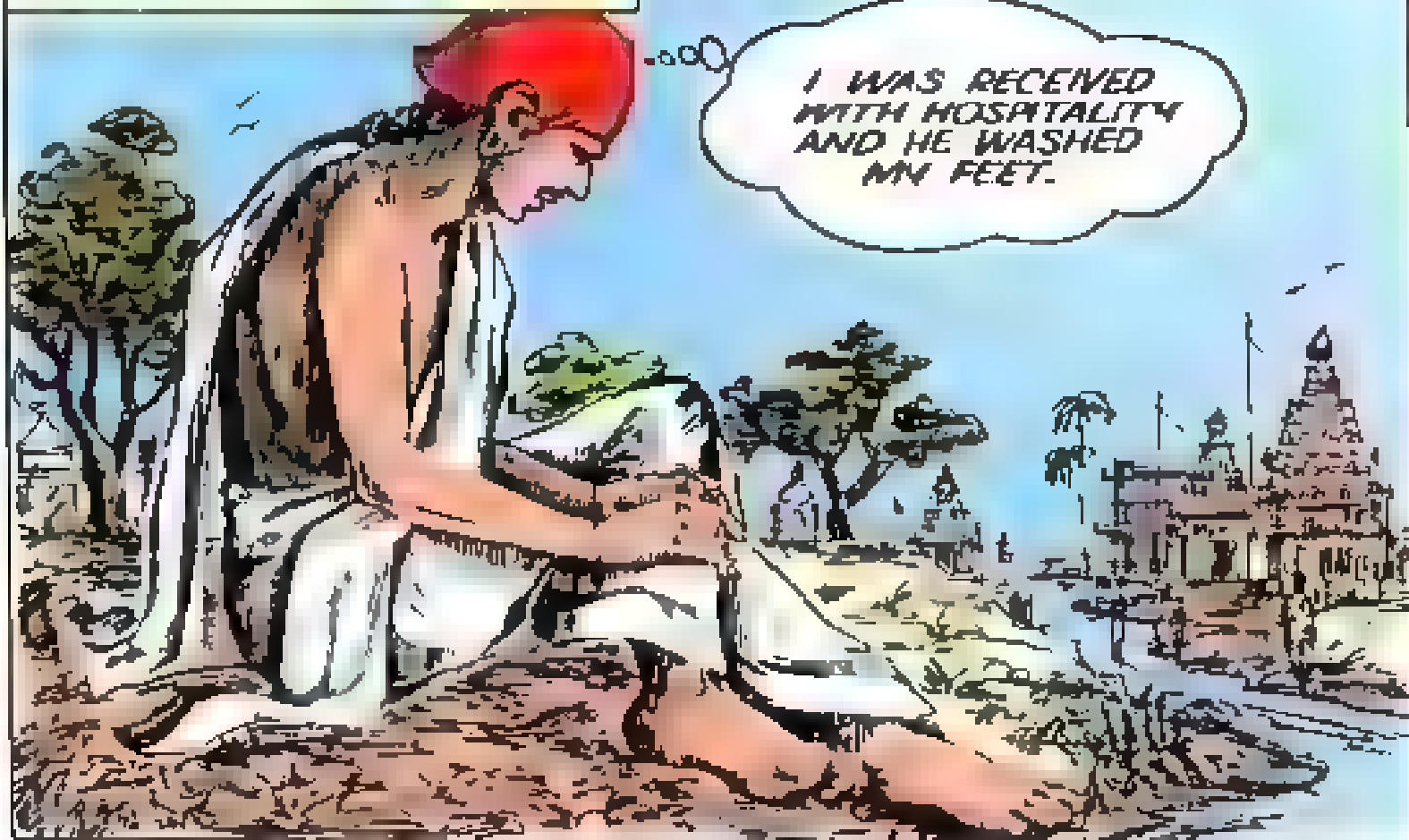


HE SAT ME  
ON THE  
SAME COTTON AS  
THE GUESTS AND  
IT WAS SHE  
WHO FANNED  
ME.



**SUDAMA'S FEET ACHED.**

**I WAS RECEIVED  
WITH HOSPITALITY  
AND HE WASHED  
MY FEET.**

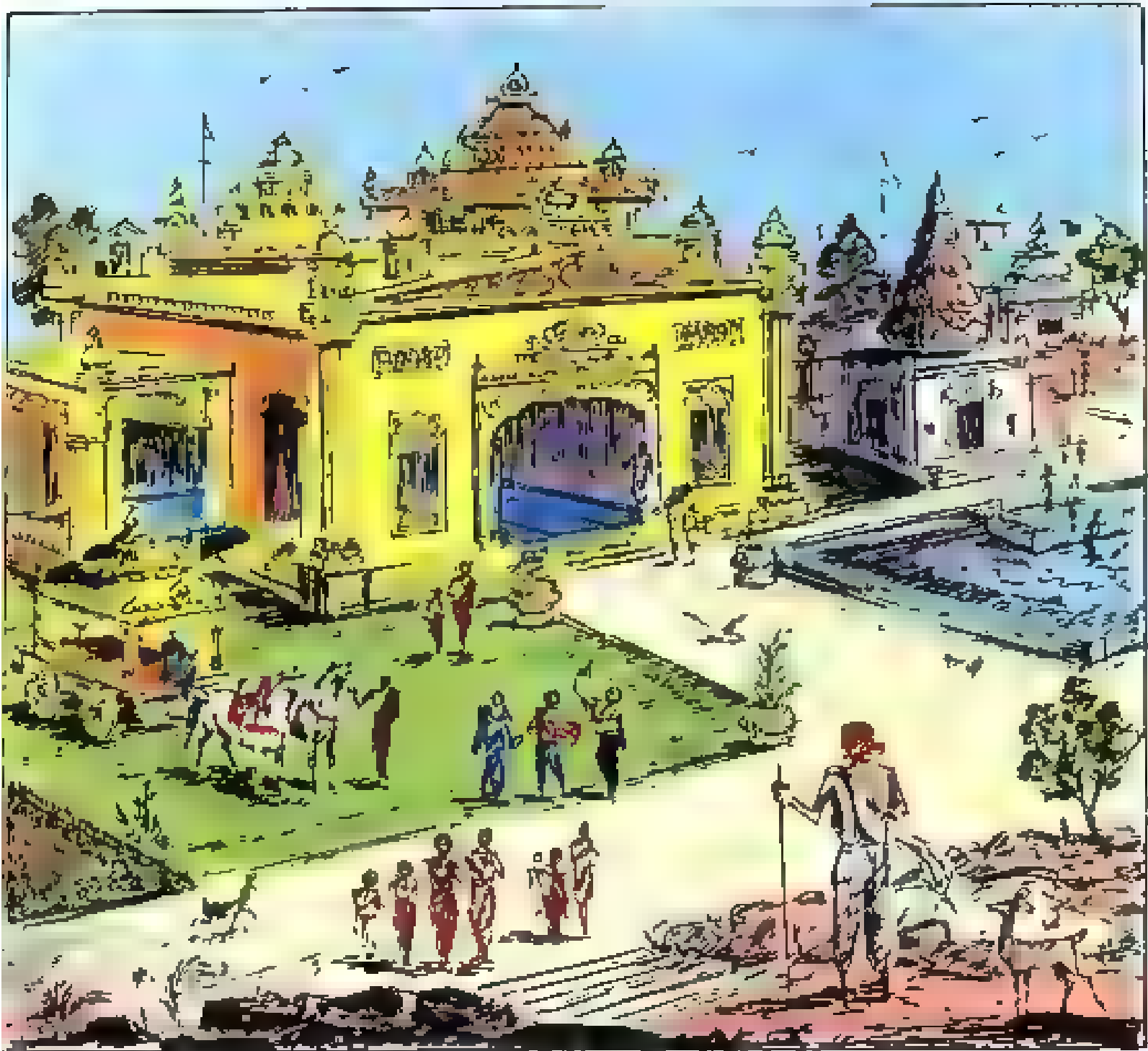


**HE MUST HAVE  
THOUGHT THAT IF HE  
GAVE ME WEALTH,  
I WOULD FORGET HIM.  
HE HAS SAVED ME.  
I AM FORTUNATE  
INDEED.**

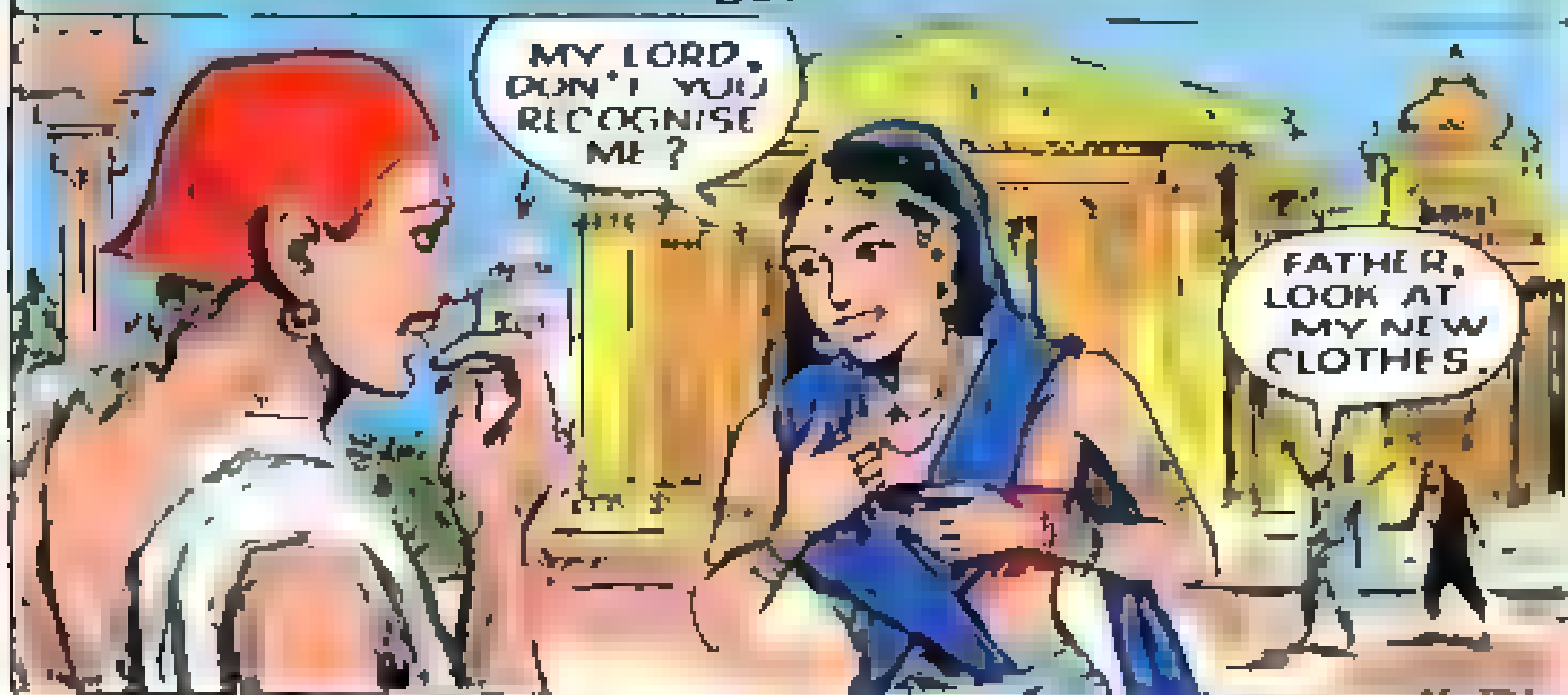


BUT WHEN HE NEARED HIS HOME...

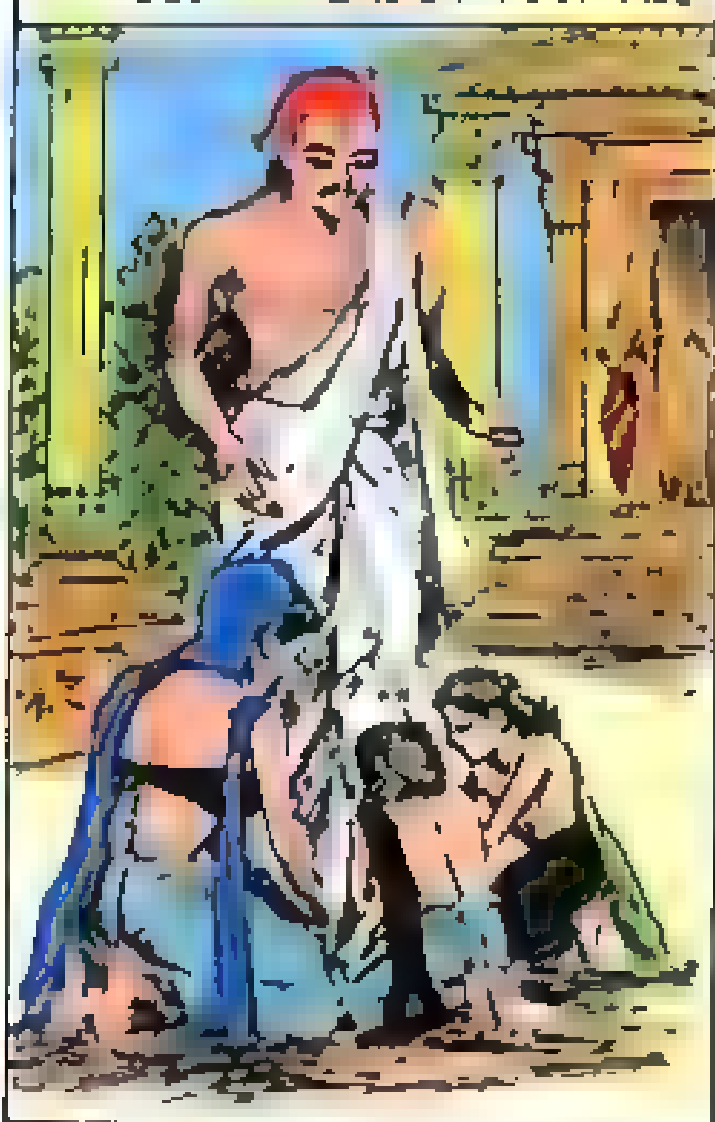
WHAT IS ALL THIS?  
TO WHOM DOES IT BELONG?  
WHERE IS MY HUT?



SUDAMA'S WIFE AND CHILDREN CAME OUT TO RECEIVE HIM,  
BUT—

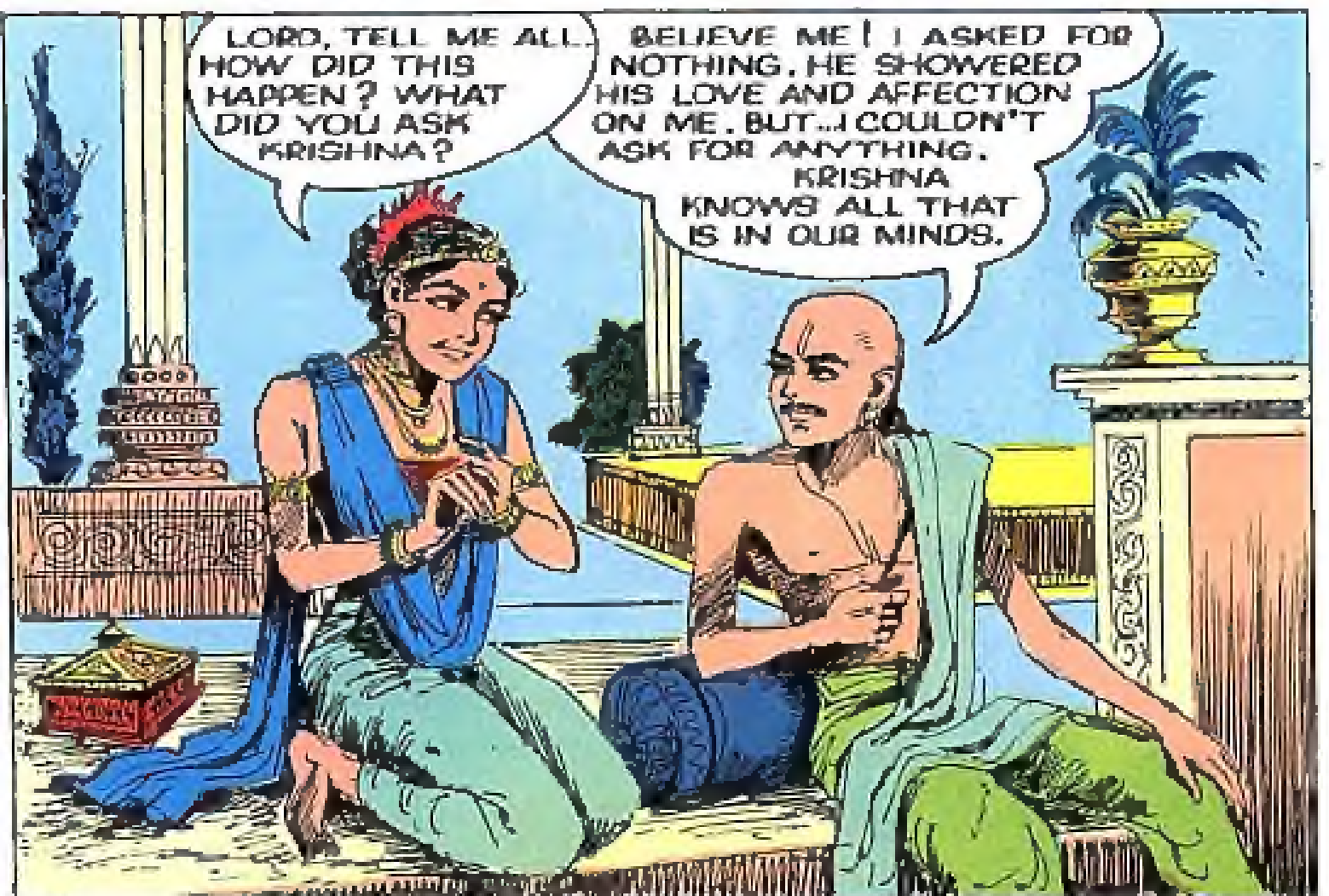
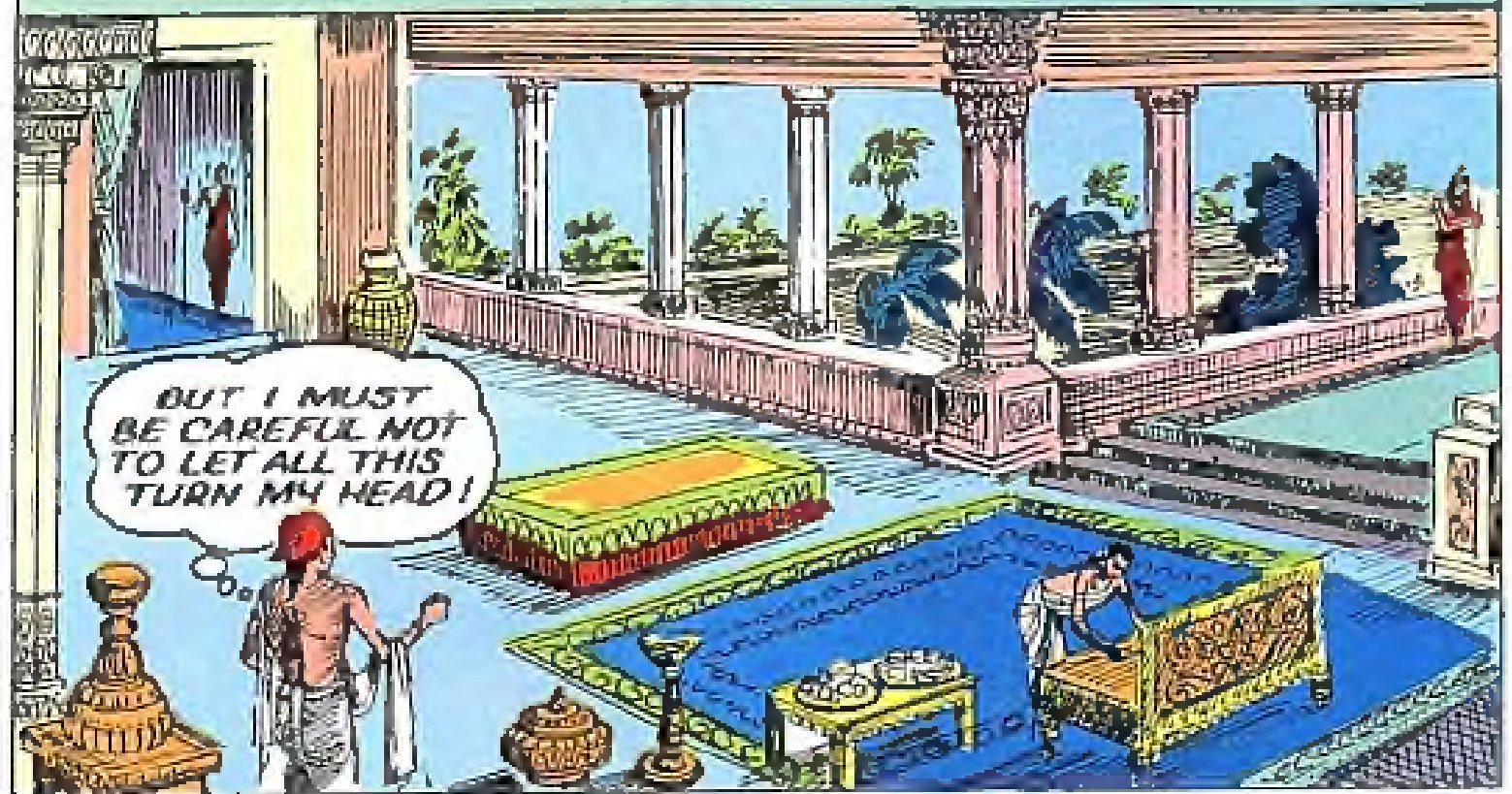


AND SUDAMA UNDERSTOOD ALL





WHEN SUDAMA SAW THE LUXURY WITHIN -



AND THEY TALKED ENDLESSLY ABOUT THE GLORY AND  
GREATNESS OF LORD KRISHNA.





Amar Chitra Katha is a collection of illustrated classics that retell stories from Indian mythology, history, folktale and legend, through the fascinating medium of comics. Over 400 titles have been published in the Amar Chitra Katha comic series that are approved by parents, appreciated by children and accepted by schools.



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| 511 Savitri         | 547 Garuda           | 589 Krishna and Shishupala |
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- |                                    |                             |                          |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
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| 523 Ramon of Tendi                 | 559 Birbal the Just         | 621 Udayana              |
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| 555 Jataka Tales: Deer Stories     | 584 Gopal the Jester        | 667 Bikal the Terrible   |
| 557 Birbal the Witty               | 587 Birbal the Genius       | 713 The Fool's Disciples |



## History

- |                        |                    |                      |
|------------------------|--------------------|----------------------|
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|-------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|
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## Illustrated Classics From India

### Sudama

The tenth book of the Bhagawat Purana, gives in detail the life story of Lord Krishna – his birth, early childhood, adolescence and adulthood. The many incidents narrated are full of adventure and romance and at the same time inspire, enlighten and guide human beings whose aim is to ennoble their lives and attain God.

The story of Sudama (a great devotee and childhood friend of Lord Krishna), which has retained its popularity with children down the ages, occurs in the same tenth book. The love of Krishna for Sudama forms the theme of many a devotional song and this story has been a source of sustenance of faith to the poor in the land. Sudama has understood the principle of non-attachment. He lives in dire poverty, and yet is happy. His wife too is content to do the same till some children are born to them.

How Sudama's wife coaxes him to go and see Krishna, his prosperous and generous childhood friend, and what happens when Sudama does is retold in pictures in the following pages.

**Editor: Anant Pai**

**Script: Kamala Chandrakant     Illustrations: Prabhakar Khanolkar**

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